



BARNARD CASTLE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Library

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer
of Health

for the Year 1964

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BARNARD CASTLE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Health Department,
43, Galgate,
Barnard Castle.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for 1964.

The Vital Statistics of the district are generally satisfactory, and reflect the changes in military population as in previous years. The provision of Health Services in the district continues to increase.

The Senior Public Health Inspector has again kindly prepared the second section of this Report dealing with water, food and drugs, meat regulations, housing and cleansing. Water supply from spring sources is not yet satisfactory.

Throughout the year I have enjoyed the advice and co-operation of the family doctors in the district.

I wish to thank the Members of this Council for their continued support and the Staff of the Department for their loyal co-operation.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. S. M. WILSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION I.

Public Health Officers.

Medical Officer of Health:

A. S. M. WILSON, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.P.H. (part-time)

Senior Public Health Officer:

JOHN GEORGE MIDDLETON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.

Public Health Inspector:

GEOFFREY NUTTER, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk to the Public Health Department:

JOE HODGSON.

General Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area (Acreage)—110,118.

Population (Registrar General's Estimated Figure mid-year 1964)—17,210.

Sum represented by a penny rate—£1,310 15s. 0d.

Rateable Value as at 1st April, 1964—£329,582.

The industries are agriculture, coal mining and stone quarrying.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS.

I am indebted to Miss Redfearn, Forest-in-Teesdale, for supplying rainfall figures in the Upper Teesdale area during the past five years:—

Rainfall at Latitude 54° 39' North. Upper Teesdale.

Month	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
January ...	6.51	6.47	9.83	3.84	2.26
February ...	3.72	5.78	6.07	3.52	2.12
March ...	1.95	2.88	2.59	7.07	3.92
April ...	2.48	4.01	6.28	3.35	3.39
May ...	2.58	3.12	4.13	3.86	3.39
June ...	1.32	1.98	2.09	5.01	3.74
July ...	4.92	6.48	3.15	2.77	2.90
August ...	3.19	4.47	7.14	4.98	3.50
September ...	2.62	4.55	4.80	4.24	3.45
October ...	8.08	8.11	2.06	3.99	2.05
November ...	6.01	3.82	3.83	10.78	4.34
December ...	5.51	7.01	5.14	2.58	9.38
Annual Rainfall	48.89	58.68	57.11	55.99	44.44

VITAL STATISTICS, 1964.

			Males		Females		
		Total	Legit.	Illegit.	Total	Legit.	Illegit.
Live Births	...	140	133	7	133	124	9
Still Births	...	4	4	0	5	4	1
Deaths of Infants							
Under 1 year of age	2	2	0	4	4	0	
Under 4 weeks of age	1	1	0	3	3	0	
Under 1 week of age	1	1	0	2	2	0	

	Male	Female	Total
ALL CAUSES OF DEATH	112	87	199
Main Causes:			

Cardio vascular:—

(a) Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	15	15	30
(b) Coronary disease, angina	...	36	14	50
(c) Other heart diseases	...	10	10	20
(d) Other circulatory diseases	...	5	6	11
Totals	...	66	45	111

Cancer:—

(a) Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	...	1	1	2
(b) Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	8	1	9
(c) Malignant Neoplasm, breast	...	0	3	3
(d) Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	...	11	11	22
Totals	...	20	16	36

Chest Diseases:—

(a) Pneumonia	...	4	5	9
(b) Bronchitis	...	4	2	6
(c) Other diseases of respiratory system	...	0	1	1
Totals	...	8	8	16

Other Causes:

Tuberculosis—respiratory	...	1	0	1
Influenza	...	0	1	1
Diabetes	...	2	4	6
Congenital Malformations	...	1	0	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	1	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	9	8	17
Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	1	0	1
All other Accidents	...	3	3	6
Suicide	...	0	1	1
Totals	...	18	18	36

APPENDIX I.

Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life

CAUSE OF DEATH										Sex
1.	TUBERCULOSIS, RESPIRATORY	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M F
10.	MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, STOMACH	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M F
11.	MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, LUNG, BRONCHUS	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M F
12.	MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, BREAST	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M F
14.	OTHER MALIGNANT AND LYMPHATIC NEOPLASMS	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M F
16.	DIABETES	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M F
17.	VASCULAR LESIONS OF NERVOUS SYSTEM	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M F
18.	CORONARY DISEASE, ANGINA	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M F
20.	OTHER HEART DISEASE	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M F
21.	OTHER CIRCULATORY DISEASE	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M F
22.	INFLUENZA	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M F
23.	PNEUMONIA	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M F
24.	BRONCHITIS	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M F
25.	OTHER DISEASES OF RESPIRATORY SYSTEM	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M F
28.	NEPHRITIS AND NEPHROSIS	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M F
31.	CONGENITAL MALFORMATIONS	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M F
32.	OTHER DEFINED AND ILL-DEFINED DISEASES	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M F
33.	MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M F
34.	ALL OTHER ACCIDENTS	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M F
35.	SUICIDE	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M F
TOTAL ALL CASES										M F

Spring 1964 in the Rural District of Barnard Castle.

Total All ages	AGE IN YEARS										
	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	1—	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75+
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
8	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	5	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	7	1
11	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	3	6
2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	8
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	3	7
36	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	15	11	9
14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	7
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	9
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	7
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4
6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
5	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	5
8	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	1
1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
112	1	1	—	—	—	3	1	1	29	33	43
87	3	1	—	1	—	—	2	5	12	19	44

Live-birth Rate—15.9 per 1,000 home population.
Adjusted Rate—16.7 per 1,000 home population.
Corresponding Rate for England and Wales—18.4 per 1,000 home population.

Still-birth Rate—31.9 per 1,000 total births.
Corresponding Rate for England and Wales—16.3 per 1,000 total births.

Death-rate—11.6 per 1,000 home population.
Adjusted Rate—12.5 per 1,000 home population.
Corresponding Rate for England and Wales—11.3 per 1,000 home population.

Death-rate all infants—22.0 per 1,000 live-births.
Corresponding Rate for England and Wales—20.0 per 1,000 live-births.

As in previous years, the main causes of death in the district were diseases of the heart and circulatory system, cancer and diseases of the respiratory system, in that order.

The number of deaths from coronary disease was 50 and 36 of these were in males. As older killing diseases are eliminated by prevention and cure, deaths from cancer assume greater proportions. The increase is partly relative in that more people at all ages are living longer and into age groups where cancer may affect them.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

A. HOSPITALS :—

There are no hospitals in the district. Cases of infectious diseases requiring hospital treatment are sent to one of the hospitals controlled by the South-West Durham Hospital Management Committee.

B. LABORATORIES :—

Public Health Laboratories are available at Northallerton and Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The Laboratory is situated in the General Hospital, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Facilities are also provided at Bishop Auckland General Hospital, Pathological Department, for urgent bacteriological examinations.

C. COUNTY COUNCIL SERVICES:—

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for providing summaries of work carried out by the following services.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Barnard Castle urban and rural districts are served by two ambulance depots, two ambulances and four driver-attendants.

	Journeys	Stretcher	Sitting	Total	Mileage
		cases	cases	cases	
1960	... 1,185	609	4,741	5,350	67,706
1961	... 1,055	506	4,511	5,017	62,835
1962	... 1,081	519	4,724	5,243	61,010
1963	... 1,130	563	4,671	5,234	64,681
1964	... 1,160	628	4,959	5,587	67,544

In addition to the above, patients residing in the urban and rural districts are also conveyed by vehicles from neighbouring depots and by the Darlington Ambulance Service, as occasion demands. Records are not maintained in sanitary district order and information regarding these cases cannot be conveniently supplied.

HOME NURSING AND MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

Staff: 7 District Nurse Midwives.

NAME.	ADDRESS.	TELEPHONE NO.
Miss A. V. Dunn.	4, Kensington Terrace, Cockfield.	Cockfield 280.
Miss L. Earle.	4, Victoria Terrace, Middleton-in-Teesdale.	
	(Resigned during 1964.)	
Miss M. Furlong.	Valley View, 73, Low Etherley.	West Auckland 302
Miss E. Shenton.	13, Eden Crest, Gainford.	Gainford 247.
Mrs. V. M. Slack.	Garden House, Copley, Butterknowle.	Cockfield 254.
Mrs. M. Walker.	West End, Ingleton.	Gainford 288.
Mrs. E. Walls.	'Dilk Hush,' 57, Gordon Lane, Ramshaw, Evenwood.	West Auckland 264.

MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

No. of Midwifery and Maternity Cases	...	...	...	76
No. of Hospital patients discharged before tenth day	...	...	...	35

HOME NURSING SERVICE.

Cases	Patients	Visits
Medical	281	9,076
Surgical	85	2,298
Tuberculosis	7	140
Grand Total	373	11,514
Cases included in the above total aged 65 years or over	61.4%	67.3%
Cases included in the above total under 5 years of age	3.5%	0.76%

HEALTH VISITING.

The number of health visitors in the area is four.

Domiciliary Visits :

Total number of visits paid	...	...	...	...	5,264
1. Maternity and child welfare	...	...	...	...	3,713
2. Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	47
3. General Health	...	...	...	...	114
4. Mentally subnormal	...	...	...	...	97
5. School	...	...	...	...	292
6. Aged people	...	...	...	...	538

Summary :

Ineffective visits	...	...	...	...	463
Total number of visits	...	...	...	...	5,264
Number of effective visits	...	...	...	...	4,801
Time (as days) spent on visits (routine, other and ineffective)	...	...	...	...	310
Average daily number of effective visits per health visitor	16				

Clinic, etc., work :

Time (as days) spent					
(a) at maternity and child welfare centres	...	...	...	...	56
(b) at chest clinics	...	...	...	...	—
(c) at school head to head inspections and school clinics	10				
(d) at school medical inspections and special schools	14				

Cases reported to the district medical officer of health

Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	—
Sanitary defects	...	...	...	...	...	2

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

Cases attended on 1st January, 1964	...	...	...	68
New cases during the year	...	...	...	43
Cases terminated during year	...	...	...	29
Cases attended on 31st December, 1964	...	...	...	82
Number of Home Helps employed during year	...	...	...	59

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

Child Welfare Centres administered by the Durham County Council are held at Butterknowle, Cockfield, Middleton-in-Teesdale and Staindrop (see Appendix II). Temporary School Clinics are provided at Evenwood C.F. School and Butterknowle County School. Weekly sessions, attended by an Acting School Nurse are held at these clinics.

CENTRES	No. on books from 1 - 1 - 64		Attendances						Consultations											
			Number			Average per session			Number			Average per session								
			Children			Children			Children			Children								
	Expectant Mothers	Under 1 year	Between 1 - 2 years	Between 2 - 5 years	Expectant Mothers	Under 1 year	Between 1 - 2 years	Between 2 - 5 years	Expectant Mothers	Under 1 year	Between 1 - 2 years	Between 2 - 5 years	Expectant Mothers	Under 1 year	Between 1 - 2 years	Between 2 - 5 years				
Butterknowle	-	19	21	18	-	162	58	33	-	13	5	3	-	132	41	15	-	10	3	1
Cockfield	1	23	30	21	1	285	98	34	-	11	4	2	-	249	82	27	-	10	4	1
Middleton-in-Teesdale	-	18	19	19	-	269	56	54	-	12	2	3	-	144	28	34	-	7	1	2
Staindrop	2	20	20	12	5	207	76	16	-	9	4	1	5	138	45	11	-	6	2	1
TOTALS	3	80	90	70	6	923	288	137	-	11	4	2	5	663	196	87	-	8	3	1

+ C.W.C. primarily, but Ante-Natals seen where necessary.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION.

POLIOMYELITIS, DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS IMMUNISATION.

Protection against poliomyelitis, diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus is available from family doctors and at child welfare centres.

Polio protection is available up to the age of 40 and to certain priority groups over that age. The vaccine may be had either by injection or by mouth.

During 1964 the immunisation of school entrants was continued. This work was carried out within the schools on a sessional basis and is reflected in the general immunisation statistics for the area.

POLIO. (Combined urban/rural district.)

PRIMARY IMMUNISATION.

Age Group	No. of persons who have received:		
	Second Injection of Salk Vaccine	Third dose of Oral Vaccine	Total
(a) Children born in 1964 ...	1	34	35
(b) Children born in 1963 ...	13	126	139
(c) Children born in 1962 ...	4	51	55
(d) Children born in 1961 ...	1	15	16
(e) Children and young persons born in years 1943-1960 ...	—	79	79
(f) Young persons born in years 1933-1942 ...	2	6	8
(g) Others	—	6	6
Total ...	21	317	338

REINFORCING IMMUNISATION.

(a) Number of persons given third injection of Salk Vaccine	11
(b) Number of persons given fourth injection of Salk Vaccine	3
(c) Number of persons, given a reinforcing dose of oral vaccine after:	
(i) 2 Salk doses	8
(ii) 3 Salk doses, or 3 Oral doses, or 3 Salk doses plus 2 Oral doses ...	412

DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS.

		No. given Primary Course.			No. given Booster Dose.		
		Under 5 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	Total	Under 5 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	Total
Diphtheria	...	218	99	317	26	192	218
Whooping Cough	...	215	4	219	21	29	50
Tetanus	...	218	89	307	25	96	121

B.C.G. VACCINATION.

During 1964 protection against tuberculosis continued to be offered in accordance with County Council policy to all school children aged 11 years and over.

A skin test is carried out first to see whether or not a child has developed a degree of natural immunity. A negative reaction indicates the need for protection and vaccination is then carried out.

The following figures show the work carried out during 1964.

Schools	Parental Consents	At Skin Testing		At Reading			At Vaccination	
		Pupils Tested	Pupils Absent	Positive Reactors	Negative Reactors	Absent	Vac- cinated	NotVac- cinated
Middleton								
Modern ...	16	14	2	0	13	1	7	6
Staindrop								
Modern ...	102	93	9	10	73	10	65	8
Total	118	107	11	10	86	11	72	14

Children who were absent or not vaccinated for such medical reasons as intercurrent infection, skin conditions, etc., are usually taken up at a succeeding session.

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during recent years.

	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Scarlet Fever	4	3	1	4	18
Erysipelas	1	—	1	—	—
Ac. Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia	12	12	12	8	4
Measles	7	411	67	336	92
Whooping Cough	21	1	3	50	6
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis:					
Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	2	27	—	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

During 1964 one new case of respiratory tuberculosis was notified, a male aged 70 years, and one male aged 64 died from respiratory tuberculosis.

INFECTIVE HEPATITIS.

Detailed reports have been made to you during 1964 in respect of an outbreak of infective jaundice. This infection has a very long incubation period and progresses slowly; the main control resting upon good hygiene associated with sanitary apparatus. The disease is not officially notifiable but family doctor voluntary notification has been of a consistently high order. One hopes that in the future some protective vaccination or curative drug may become available which would eliminate the possibility of any similar outbreak.

LOCAL WELFARE SERVICES.

MEALS ON WHEELS SERVICE.

During its first full year this service has been of considerable value to a number of people. Twelve in fact at each of six centres, seventy-two in all, mainly aged, who now receive two good meals weekly, costing one shilling each. Apart from the nutritional angle, the recipients enjoy and profit from the visits of those who deliver the meals. As a direct result of these visits we learn of other difficulties old people are having and we are able to direct or make possible other forms of help or assistance to them.

The service is intended primarily to help those who are bed-fast, housebound, or unable to prepare and cook proper or satisfactory meals, and it has been made possible by equal financial subsidies of the Durham County Council and this Council, respectively, on the one hand, and the generous and willing assistance of the Women's Voluntary Services on the other. Without the Women's Voluntary Services who collect, deliver, and serve the meals, sometimes under most difficult winter road conditions, the service would not exist, and we are much indebted to these ladies and certain other car drivers who voluntarily give up so much of their time, particularly in the middle part of the day. Mrs. Payne, the Women's Voluntary Services Area Organiser for our Rural District, has not spared herself in making the Meals on Wheels service as reliable and efficient as it surely is.

SECTION II.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Sir,

It again affords me considerable pleasure in submitting to you a statistical report upon the sanitary circumstances of the area and also the work done by the Public Health Inspector's Office during the calendar year 1964.

The year under review brought into force the main provisions of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, and this has added additional duties to the department, but its impact on this district will not be as great as in more densely populated and urbanised areas.

I must again record my appreciation of the valuable assistance given to me by my colleague, Mr. Nutter, and by Mr. Hodgson, Clerk to the department.

J. G. MIDDLETON,

Senior Public Health Inspector.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Routine sampling of water from the several main supplies in the district was continued throughout the year. There are now only two supplies, one supplying the Woodland area and the other the Newbiggin area, which remain unchlorinated. During the latter part of the year there was a shortage of water in the Woodland area and water from alternative sources had to be pumped into the Woodland reservoir. This gave rise to adverse samples and it is to be hoped that steps will be taken to permanently augment this supply and so prevent a repetition of this in future droughty periods.

The Newbiggin undertaking is now vested in the Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board and I am informed that plans are in being for this supply to be chlorinated during 1965.

Periodic complaints were made about the smell and taste of water supplied by the Cockfield, Stainton and Middleton-in-Teesdale supplies. Investigation of these complaints suggested that the cause was over-chlorination of the water, and the Undertakers had these complaints passed on to them.

The supplies affected by adverse sample reports were as follows :—

Supplies controlled by the Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board :—

		Coliform Bacilli	Bact Coli (Type 1)
Newbiggin.	6- 1-64	3	1
	3- 2-64	1	1
	5- 3-64	1	1
	9- 7-64	7	7
	28- 9-64	8	8
	29-10-64	1	1
	19-11-64	180+	180+
	24-12-64	5	5
Stainton.	5- 3-64	1	1

Supplies controlled by the Durham County Water Board :—

Woodland.	29-10-64	1	1
	19-11-64	25	5
	24-12-64	5	0
Cockfield.	29-10-64	1	0
Copley.	24-12-64	2	0

Samples from Private Sources.

A total of seven samples were forwarded for chemical analysis and 11 for bacteriological examination in connection with the provision of, or improvement, to private water supplies.

Details of the number of houses supplied with water from public undertakings, both by way of supplies directly into the properties and those supplied by standpipe, are indicated in the following table:—

Parish.		Present Estimated Population.	No. of Houses.	Supply in House.	Stand Pipe.
Bolam	...	81	27	26	—
Cleatlam	...	108	29	24	1
Cockfield	...	2059	711	702	2
Eggleston	...	414	174	121	—
Forest and Frith	...	384	122	24	2
Gainford	...	798	356	344	—
Hamsterley	...	366	135	95	2
Hilton	...	76	20	14	2
Headlam	...	75	25	24	—
Evenwood	...	3091	1140	1122	2
Etherley	...	1835	667	645	1
Ingleton	...	366	141	136	1
Langleydale	...	139	38	18	1
Langton	...	94	20	14	1
Lynesack	...	1826	557	552	2
Marwood	...	299	96	81	1
Morton Tinmouth	...	25	6	4	1
Middleton-in-Teesdale		1602	615	585	19
Newbiggin	...	244	85	54	5
Raby and Keverstone	...	224	60	22	2
Staindrop	...	1209	440	428	8
Streatlam and Stainton		315	75	75	—
South Bedburn	...	255	80	—	—
Wackerfield	...	82	28	28	—
Westwick	...	117	22	21	—
Whorlton	...	213	66	57	—
Winston	...	474	139	125	—
Woodland	...	351	108	105	—

FOOD AND DRUGS.

Meat Inspection.

During 1964 there were five slaughterhouses licensed but killing took place in only four of these. There has been no material change in the hours and days of slaughtering, although it will be seen by comparison with the return for the year 1963 that there has been a marked increase in the number of animals slaughtered and in fact these have almost been doubled.

Animals killed :—

		Cattle excl. Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.
1963	...	937	211	8	1885	1031
1964	...	1869	102	20	2335	1732

Under the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, the Council resolved to make a charge for this service in accordance with the scale as laid down. The income from this for the 12 months under review (1st January to 31st December) amounted to £370 9s. 0d.

The following summaries show the number of animals killed and the amount of meat condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

MEAT CONDEMNED

			st.	lbs.	Disease
Bovine liver	...	...	80	5	Distomatosis
Do.	...	...	25	1	Abscesses
Do.	...	...	1	0	Telangiectasis.
2 Bovine Hearts	...	...		4	Cysticercus Bovos
Sheep Plucks	...	...	5	2	Parasitic
Pig Plucks	...	...	3	7	Pneumonia
Bovine Lungs	...	...	5	2	Pleurisy
6 Pig Heads	...	...	5	7	Tuberculosis
			126	0	

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed (if known)	1869	102	20	2335	1732	—
Number Inspected	1869	102	20	2335	1732	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses con- demned	nil	nil	1	nil	nil	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	253	16	nil	24	16	—
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	13.5	15.7	0.5	0.1	0.92	—
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcasses con- demned	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	nil	nil	nil	nil	6	—
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	nil	nil	nil	nil	0.35	—
Cysticercosis:						
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	2	nil	nil	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigera- tion	2	nil	nil	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	nil	nil	nil	—	—	—

Public Health Meat Regulations.

Inspections of meat vans have been made at frequent intervals and these have all been found to be satisfactory.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958.

No contraventions of this Act, or of the Cruelty Regulations, have been detected. 24 licences were issued to slaughtermen, but many of these are licences which individual persons wish to maintain, although only carrying out private killing of pigs for home curing.

OTHER FOOD PREMISES.

Shops and cafes have also been visited at regular intervals. A total of 107 lbs. of unsound canned food was condemned.

ICE CREAM.

A total of 78 premises are registered for the sale of ice cream and one for manufacturing purposes.

MILK SUPPLIES.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS 1960.

The County Health Inspector made returns indicating that the County Health Department had taken a total of 77 samples from retailers in this area and that of these 14 had failed to pass the methylene blue test.

Three samples of milk were also found to be affected with Brucella organisms and these concerned two separate suppliers. In both cases the supplies were eventually cleared satisfactorily. In one of the cases the milk was diverted for pasteurisation and in the other cases the offending animals were removed from the herd.

All the samples of heat treated milk submitted for the phosphatase test were satisfactory.

HOUSING.

A tabulated statement, from the annual return made to the County Medical Officer of Health, reveals the housing position at the end of 1964 and indicates the houses dealt with during the year.

1. New houses completed during the year.

		With State assistance.	Unaided.	Total
(a)	By Local Authority	6	—	6
(b)	By any other Housing Authority ...	—	—	Nil
(c)	By private persons	—	12	12
Total No. of Inhabited Houses—5,931.				

2. Closing and Demolition of Houses.

A. FORMAL ACTION.

- (i.) No. of houses demolished during year as a result of Clearance Schemes or other formal action ... 16
- (ii.) No. of houses closed but not demolished as a result of formal action 19
- (iii.) No. of houses in Clearance Areas and individual unfit houses demolition of which temporarily postponed (occupied at 31-12-64) 43
- (iv.) No. of houses in use as temporary accommodation None

B. INFORMAL ACTION.

- (i.) No. of houses permanently discontinued as dwellings as a result of informal action and not included above 10

3. Reconditioning and Repair.

No. of houses made fit during the year by procedure under Housing Acts (excluding temporary accommodation) or Public Health Acts:

- (a) As a result of informal action 31
- (b) By owners as a result of statutory notice 8
- (c) By Local Authority of default of owners ... None

4. Improvement Grants: Housing Acts, 1949/59.

		No. of separate houses.	
		Discretionary	Standard
		Grant	Grant
(a)	Applications submitted to Local Authority	83	31
(b)	Applications rejected by Local Authority	Nil	Nil
(c)	Total No. of applications approved since inception of scheme	733	85
(d)	Total No. of grants paid since inception of scheme	658	54

Clearance Orders.

No clearance orders were made during the year.

Demolition and Closing Orders.

Demolition Orders were made on the following 15 properties:—

92 and 94, Toft Hill.
6, Fell Houses, Cockfield.
3, Gordon Lane, Ramshaw.
36, Esperley, Cockfield.
1 and 3, Allans Yard, Staindrop.
1—5, Ruddocks Wynd, Staindrop.
11, 12, 13, Lane Head, Copley.

Closing Orders.

No Closing Orders were made during the year.

Undertakings.

Following service of Time and Place Notices, the owners of the following properties agreed not to use the houses for human habitation until made fit to the satisfaction of the Council:—

Watergate Eye, Butterknowle.
Cabin House, Wham.

Demolition of Condemned Property.

The demolition of condemned dwellings slowed down considerably during the year under review. This area has been fortunate in having a contractor willing to demolish properties free of charge, but we might have to look elsewhere in order to expedite this work in the future.

RODENT CONTROL.

The operator again was only able to devote a portion of his time to this work, owing to a demand on his services by the Cleansing Department. Even so, all complaints were expeditiously dealt with and a systematic treatment was given to all the Council's refuse tips and sewerage works.

I append below a copy of the annual report submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in respect of the year ended 31st December, 1964:—

TYPE OF PROPERTY.

	(1) Local Authority.	(2) Dwelling Houses.	(3) All other (including Business Premises)	(4) Totals of Cols. 1, 2 and 3.	(5) Agr'ture
I. No. of properties in local authority's district	34	5012	1068	6114	786
II. Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification	2	58	7	67	26
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat: Major	2	—	2	4	11
Minor	—	58	4	62	14
III. Number of infested properties treated by Local Authority ...	2	58	7	67	26

SMOKE ABATEMENT. CLEAN AIR ACT, 1957.

Only one grit deposit gauge was in use during the year and this was the one sited in Steel's Field, Evenwood. A very slight average increase in grit deposit was recorded but the nuisance to the general public appeared to be greatly improved.

Deposit Gauge Bowl D1293	Tons/Sq. Mile.
(Steel's Field)	37.29

GENERAL.

A general summary of visits made and notices served under both the Public Health and Housing Acts is appended below :—

	No. of Inspections.	No. of Informal Notices served.	No. of Statutory Notices. served.	Defects remedied after Notice.
Public Health and Housing Acts	825	42	2	32
Sanitary Conveniences :				
Insufficient	27	—	—	—
Defective	54	14	—	14
Drainage	439	17	1	16
Water Supply	123	2	—	2
Food Premises	170	4	—	4
Dairies (Sampling)	3	3	—	3
Slaughterhouses (Private)	899	4	—	4
Tents, Vans, etc.	14	—	—	—
Factories and Workplaces	38	—	—	—
Keeping of Animals	6	1	—	1
Insanitary Ashpits and				
Receptacles	71	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisance	30	—	—	—
Prevention of Damage by Pests				
Act, 1949	32	1	—	—
Public Cleansing	294	25	—	20
Council House Repairs	44	—	—	—
Petroleum Regulations	23	63	—	60
Infectious Diseases	2	—	—	—
Council House Applicants	281	—	—	—
Verminous Premises	13	—	—	—
Food Inspection	136	—	—	—
Totals	3524	176	3	156

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

The position with regard to the number and types of closets in the area is as follows :—

Total number of water closets ...	5,298
Total number of other types ...	796

Twelve privy conversion grants of £13 each were made during the year.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse Collection.

During the year the Council decided to purchase a different type of vehicle in order to cope more adequately with the changing circumstances of refuse collection in the area. When direct scavenging was introduced during the war years there were many ash closets in the area, but due to a progressive outlook the Council have had all these converted where this has been found to be possible. The type of refuse from households has also changed over the years and one is finding that it is becoming more bulky, with much more paper, cardboard and tins finding their way into the dust bin. The new type of vehicle, a Shelvoke and Drewry 20 cubic yard Pakamatic (diesel engine) was actually delivered in December and will be out on service in the new year. It is hoped that this vehicle, along with an existing 7 cubic yard Karrier Bantam, will do the work which is at present being done by three wagons of the side loading type.

In accordance with declared policy, the paper bag scheme has been extended to Council properties at Gainford, Staindrop, Ingleton, Stainton and Winston, and this has resulted in a further 241 bag holders being provided. At the end of the year a total of 686 Council houses, bungalows and flats had been changed over to the bag scheme.

The changes which are taking place by way of improved vehicle design, which leads to less dust nuisance when loading, and the dispensable container, are together greatly contributing to the improvement of the service, and this is being jointly shared by the householder and cleansing personnel.

Refuse disposal has not always received the consideration it should, but there is little doubt but that closer attention will have to be paid to this in years to come. In scattered rural areas it is necessary to have several disposal points in order to reduce costs which would otherwise result in long hauls having to be made if only one single site was available. Suitable disposal sites are now becoming more difficult to find, but the Council is fortunate in owning a large disused quarry which is fairly centrally situated in the Cockfield/Evenwood area. I am slowly reducing the number of disposal points in this district and hope soon to have these reduced to two. It will be necessary to keep the tip at Middleton-in-Teesdale for another year or so, but this is a poor site, the tip being difficult to control and the access road being bad to negotiate in winter months. There is no suitable covering material for this tip, and apart from controlling vermin and frequent levelling over and the prevention of paper blowing about, there is little else that can be done.

The total net cost for scavenging for the financial year ending 31st March, 1964, was £17,898 10s. 7d. Wages including superannuation and insurance amounted to £14,359 4s. 0d.

Trade Refuse.

A weekly collection of trade refuse from 39 premises brought in a sum of £23 10s. 0d. The charge to each trade premise is based on the scale of 5d. per bin.

Refuse Disposal.

The main tip for refuse disposal is the Craghead tip situated between Cockfield and Evenwood. There are in addition six smaller tips in the area. All the tips are regularly attended and semi-controlled tipping is operated.

General.

The following is a summary of the refuse collected and miles run by the vehicles during the year under review:—

Number of premises cleansed	...	...	...	...	289,731
Number of loads of refuse	...	...	...	...	4,112
Estimated tonnage	...	...	...	...	8,200
Mileage	...	...	...	...	37,974
Number of gallons of petrol used	...	...	...	...	4,694
Number of pints of oil used	...	...	...	...	192

Bulldozer—Rechargeable Work.

In addition to the routine control of refuse disposal on the several tips in the area, the bulldozer was utilised on two occasions for the Engineer and Surveyor's Department in levelling over soil at the Gainford and Winston Sewage Works.

Only one rechargeable job was undertaken during the year. The refuse tip at Shaw Bank was levelled over for the Urban District Council, which brought in a revenue of £26 8s. 5d.

FACTORIES ACT, 1962.

INSPECTIONS.

Premises.	No. on Register.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Oocupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	4	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	42	28	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	4	2	—	—
Total	50	32	3	—

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND:

Particulars.	Referred		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Sanitary Conveniences—Found. Remedied.	Inspector.	Inspector.	
(a) Insufficient .. — —	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective .. — —	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes .. — —	—	—	—

OUTWORKERS. One outworker is registered.

